

could be spent here and that life could be saved. And I would like to know what happened to the Republican Party that used to question our involvement overseas, that used to worry about how much we spent, that used to worry about how many lives would be lost, that suggested that we should only be involved in overseas wars if our national interest was at stake? I do not hear about that Republican Party anymore.

War is supposed to be a last resort. Many Republicans used to say that. They do not say that anymore.

So I will say to my colleagues on the other side of the aisle, it is not the Democratic Party that has changed. The Democratic Party is still looking out for the little guy. The Democratic Party is still concerned about our economy and our jobs and putting America first. It is the Republican Party that, in fact, has lost sight of that with the Republican leadership that we see here running the House of Representatives.

And I could go on and on. I do not really seek to, because I am not interested in being negative. I would rather be positive. I would like to see the day when we get together and work on issues together. But the only way that that can happen is if the Republican majority and its leadership allows the Democrats to participate, allows the Democrats to provide ideas, allows Democrats to speak, allows Democrats to propose amendments. That is not what we are seeing.

It was very interesting tonight because when we had the first Special Order and we began to read the names of those soldiers who had died in Iraq, there were both Democrats and Republicans on the floor. It was my colleague, the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. JONES) who voted for the war but says now that it is time to get out. And I think what is beginning to happen here is that there are some Republicans who are beginning to realize the Democrats are right; that it is time for us to get out of Iraq; that we have to have an exit strategy; that there is too much abuse of power on the part of the Republican majority; that in fact too much of Republican policy is aimed towards helping the millionaire and the big-shot rather than the little guy; that there is too much emphasis on the Republican side in terms of Republican policy about worrying about free trade and whether or not we can get something cheaper done overseas instead of trying to protect a job for Americans here at home.

And there are some Republicans who have expressed interest and concern about the deficit and the crippling impact it has on the economy and, in fact, that the economy is not that good. So there is hope here.

I would like to end on a positive note because I do believe that there are members of the Republican Party, my colleagues on the other side, that now realize that on many of these policy

issues Democrats are right. And, hopefully, we can forge a bipartisan leadership that will address some of these issues in a positive way. But it is only going to begin when my colleagues on the other side realize that they have to give an opportunity for Democrats to speak, that they cannot abuse the power of their majority. And we are not there yet, but hopefully we can be in the next few weeks or the next few months before this session of Congress is over.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted to:

Mr. BOYD (at the request of Ms. PELOSI) for today.

Ms. HARMAN (at the request of Ms. PELOSI) for today after 2:00 p.m. and the balance of the week.

Mr. UDALL of New Mexico (at the request of Ms. PELOSI) for today after 2:45 p.m. and the balance of the week on account of business in the district.

Mr. REYES (at the request of Ms. PELOSI) for today and the balance of the week on account of official business.

Mr. BASS (at the request of Mr. DELAY) for today after noon on account of attending his daughter Lucy's graduation from the eighth grade.

Mr. TOM DAVIS of Virginia (at the request of Mr. DELAY) for today and the balance of the week on account of personal reasons.

Mrs. WILSON of New Mexico (at the request of Mr. DELAY) for today after 3:00 p.m. and the balance of the week on account of attending a hearing at Cannon Air Force Base in Clovis, New Mexico, with members of the Base Realignment and Closure Commission.

SPECIAL ORDERS GRANTED

By unanimous consent, permission to address the House, following the legislative program and any special orders heretofore entered, was granted to:

(The following Members (at the request of Mr. McNULTY) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. CHANDLER, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. DEFAZIO, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. SCHIFF, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. WOOLSEY, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. MCDERMOTT, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. CORRINE BROWN of Florida, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. CARSON, for 5 minutes, today.

Mrs. JONES of Ohio, for 5 minutes, today.

(The following Members (at the request of Mr. DUNCAN) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. OSBORNE, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. WELDON of Florida, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. GUTKNECHT, for 5 minutes, June 30.

Mr. GINGREY, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. FITZPATRICK of Pennsylvania, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. SOUDER, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. KELLER, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. DUNCAN, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. PETERSON of Pennsylvania, for 5 minutes, today.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 9 o'clock and 4 minutes p.m.), the House adjourned until tomorrow, Friday, June 24, 2005, at 9 a.m.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 8 of rule XII, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

2444. A letter from the Acting Chair, Federal Subsistence Board, Department of the Interior, transmitting the Department's final rule — Subsistence Management Regulations for Public Lands in Alaska, Subpart C and Subpart D — 2005-06 Subsistence Taking of Fish and Wildlife Regulations (RIN: 1018-AT70) received June 16, 2005, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Resources.

2445. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Commerce, transmitting the biennial report regarding the activities of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's Chesapeake Bay Office Activities, pursuant to Section 307(b)(7) of the NOAA Authorization Act of 1992; to the Committee on Resources.

2446. A letter from the Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Fisheries of the Northeastern United States; Summer Flounder Fishery; Quota Transfer [Docket No. 041110317-4364-02; I.D. 030305D] received May 19, 2005, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Resources.

2447. A letter from the Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Fisheries of the Northeastern United States; Summer Flounder Fishery; Commercial Quota Harvested for North Carolina [Docket No. 031119283-4001-05; I.D. 122204F] received May 19, 2005, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Resources.

2448. A letter from the Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Alaska Plaice in the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands Managements Area [Docket No. 041126332-5039-02; I.D. 050605D] received May 19, 2005, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Resources.

2449. A letter from the Deputy Assistant Administrator for Operations, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Fisheries of the Northeastern United States; Northeast (NE) Multispecies Fishery; Framework Adjustment 40B [Docket No. 050314072-5126-02; I.D. 030705D] (RIN: 0648-AS33) received June 9, 2005, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Resources.

2450. A letter from the Chief, Regulations and Administrative Law, USCG, Department